

Remarks

I. Status of the Application and Claims

At the time that the present Office Action was mailed, the claims pending in the application were claims 10-27. In the present response, all of these claims were cancelled and new claims 28-47 were introduced.

II. The Amendments

The specification was amended to remove a paragraph that is no longer completely accurate in light of amendments that have been made to the claims.

All pending claims were cancelled and new claims 28-47 have been introduced. New claim 28 is essentially proposed claim 19 from the response to the Restriction Requirement filed by Applicants on June 16, 2008. Support for the various substituents recited may be found on page 10 of the application, lines 27-34. Support for the specific compounds recited in claim 41 may be found on page 7 of the application, lines 13-15. All other amendments are fully supported by the cancelled claims and by the specification.

The amendments made herein do not add new matter to the application and their entry is therefore respectfully requested.

III. Objections to Claims

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claims 10-27 based upon the allegation that they include subject matter that is not within the elected restriction group. In response, Applicants have amended claims in a manner that they believe overcomes this objection.

The Rejections

I. Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC §112, First Paragraph

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims under 35 USC §112, first paragraph. The rejection appears to be based upon an allegation that the claims fail to meet the written description requirement of patentability because they do not define the terms “C6-C18 aromatic substituted amino acid” and “C6-C18 aromatic substituted amino alcohol”

structurally. As a result, the claims allegedly have a breadth that is not fully supported by the application.

In response, Applicants have now incorporated structural requirements into all claims and have limited them based upon the restriction requirement previously received. Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims now only include compounds that are adequately supported by the specification and it is therefore respectfully requested that the present rejection be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC §112, Second Paragraph

On pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action, claims are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph. The Examiner alleges that claims are not complete because they fail to adequately describe the structures of the compounds undergoing reaction. The rejection expressly suggests that the missing information is structural formula 1. Since this is now included in all of the amended claims along with all variables used in the formula, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection has been overcome.

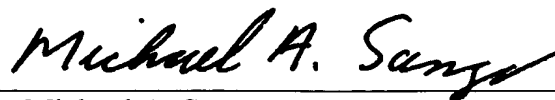
Conclusion

In light of the considerations above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections that have been made. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a phone call may help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at (240)683-6165.

Respectfully submitted,

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